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MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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Based on characters and concepts created by Glen Larson for the television series Battlestar Galactica.™ *

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA

SHIP OF CRAWLING DEATH!

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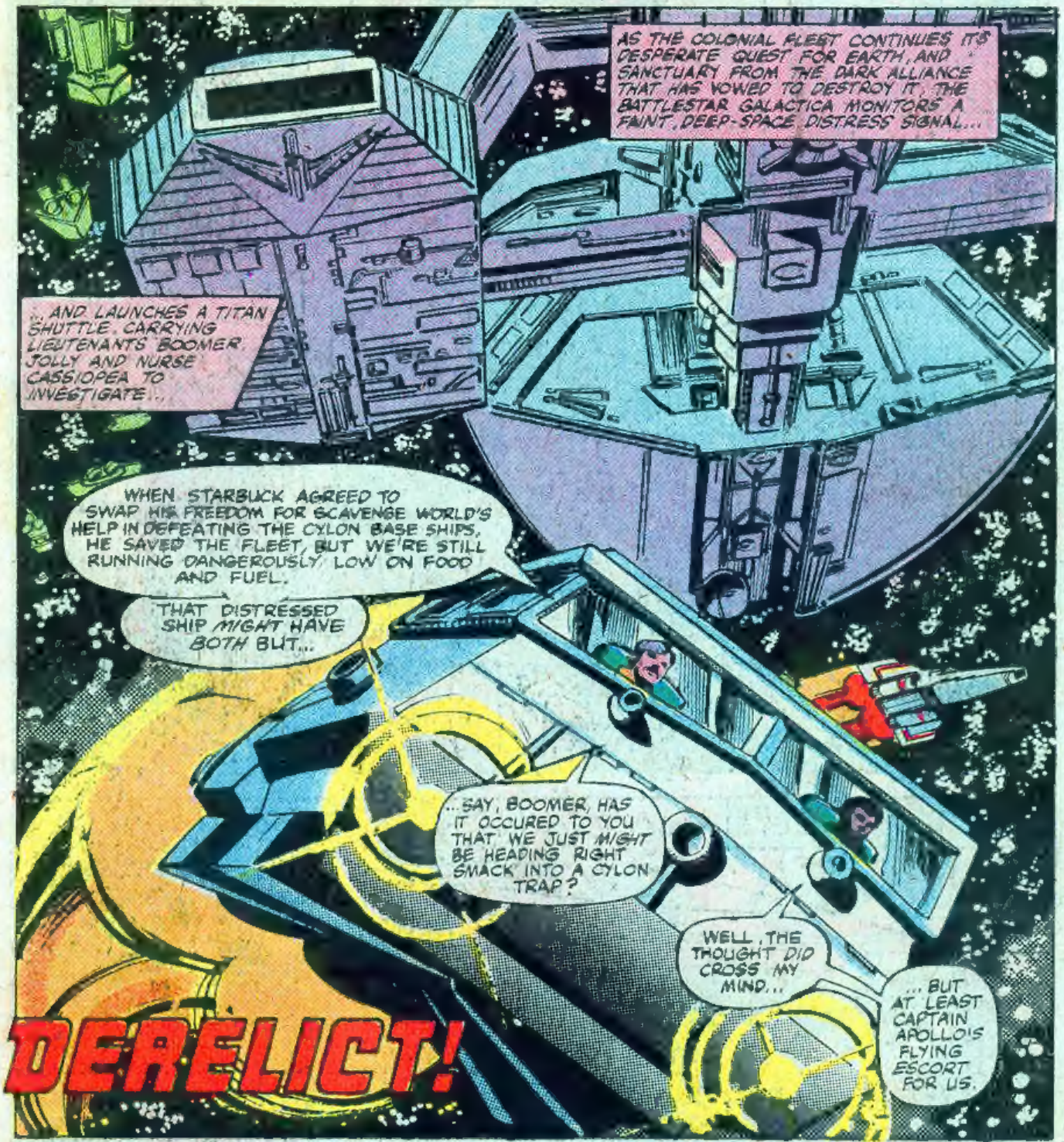
There are those who believe life here began out there, far across the universe, with tribes of humans who may have been the forefathers of the Egyptians. Or the Toltecs. Or the Mayans. Some believe there may yet be brothers of man who even now fight to survive somewhere beyond the heavens!

Stan Lee Presents: BattlestaR GALACTICA

Based on the television series Battlestar Galactica™ written and created by Glen Larson.

ROGER McKENZIE & WALT SIMONSON / SCRIPT-PLOT-BREAKDOWNS
KLAUS JANSON / FINISHES
NOVAK, LETTERING / SHAREN, COLORS
ALLEN MILGROM / EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER / IMPERIOUS LEADER



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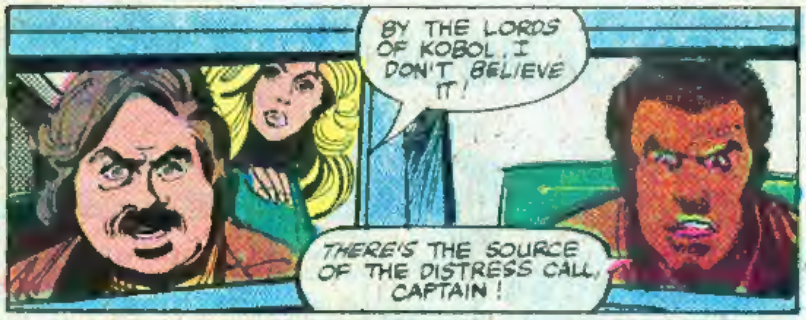
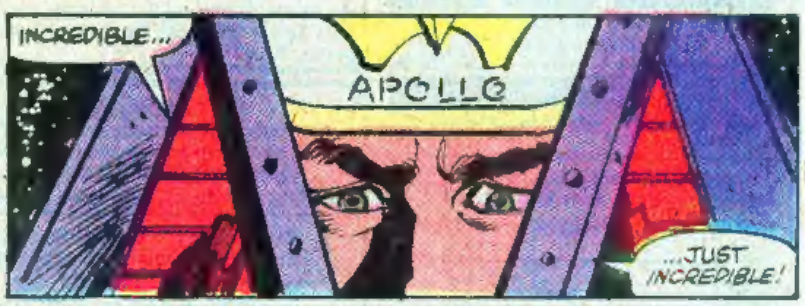
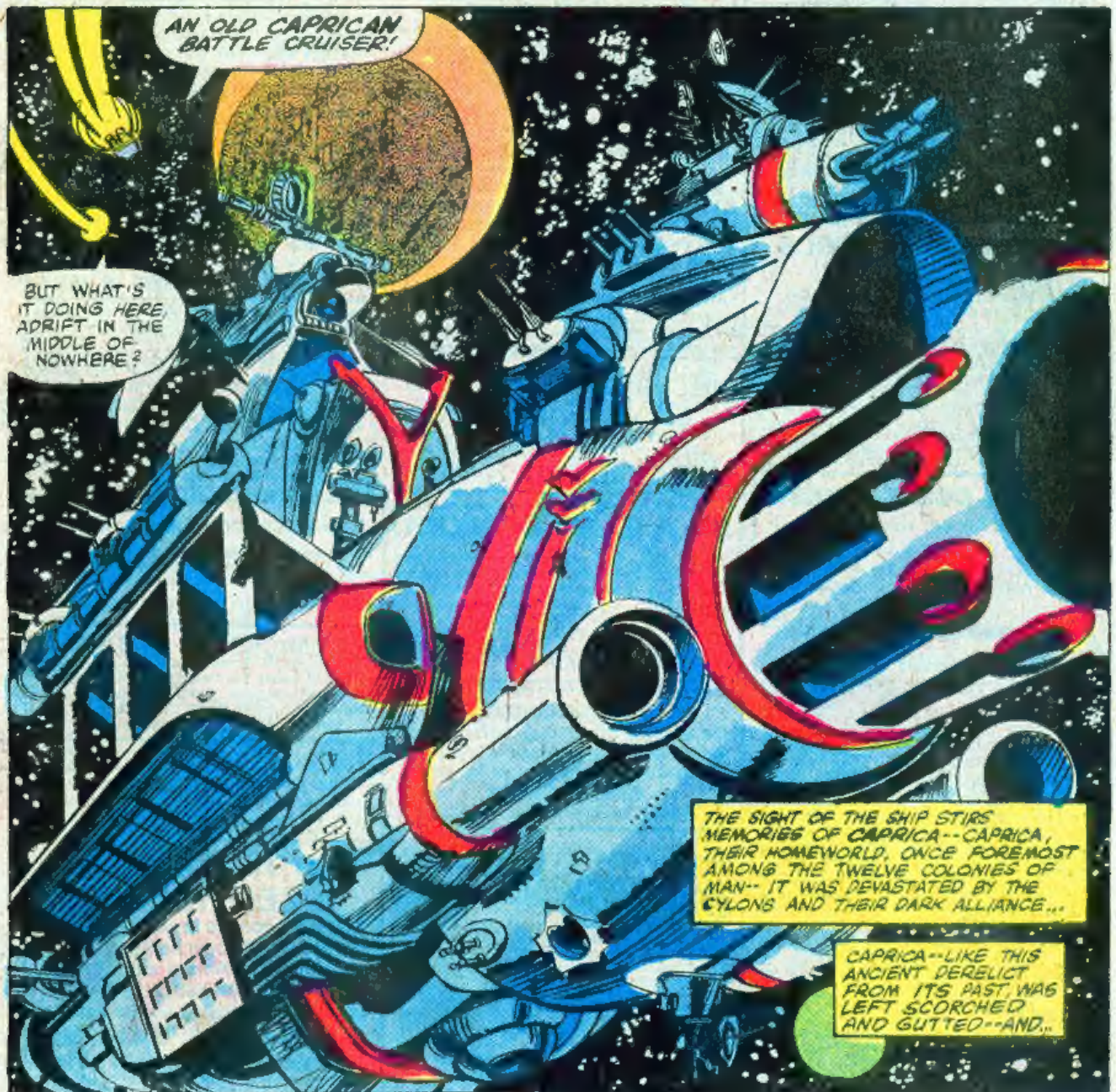
LF80

RIGHT, GUYS. THIS SHOULD BE A MILK RUN, BUT WE CAN NEVER BE SURE... THAT'S WHY I WOULDN'T LET MY SISTER ATHENA COME WITH US...
MY BROTHER ZAC WAS ON A PEACE MISSION WHEN THE CYLONS BLEW HIM AWAY!
SO STICK CLOSE, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE MAY BE GETTING INTO!
APOLLO
IT'S GETTING OUT THAT WORRIES US, CAPTAIN. SUICIDE MISSIONS AREN'T EXACTLY OUR CUP OF AMBROSIA.
THEN WHY'D YOU GO AND VOLUNTEER US IN THE FIRST PLACE?
ME? I THOUGHT YOU...
OL' BUDDY, WE'VE BEEN HAD!
AND, AS APOLLO AND HIS 'VOLUNTEERS' STREAK TOWARD THE UNKNOWN...
...WE GO BACK IN TIME TO THE BRIDGE OF THE GALACTICA...
COMMANDER ADAMA, WE'RE PICKING UP A DISTRESS CALL.
FROM ONE OF OUR VESSELS, SERGEANT?
NEGATIVE, COMMANDER. ALL FLEET SHIPS HAVE BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR. I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, SIR, BUT THE SIGNAL'S BROADCASTING ON AN OLD SUB-SPACE CAPRICAN FREQUENCY.
CAPRICAN?! EITHER THE CYLONS ARE EVEN MORE TREACHEROUS THAN I THOUGHT, OR--
HELMSMAN, READY A RESCUE SHUTTLE AND VIPER ESCORT FOR IMMEDIATE LIFT-OFF!







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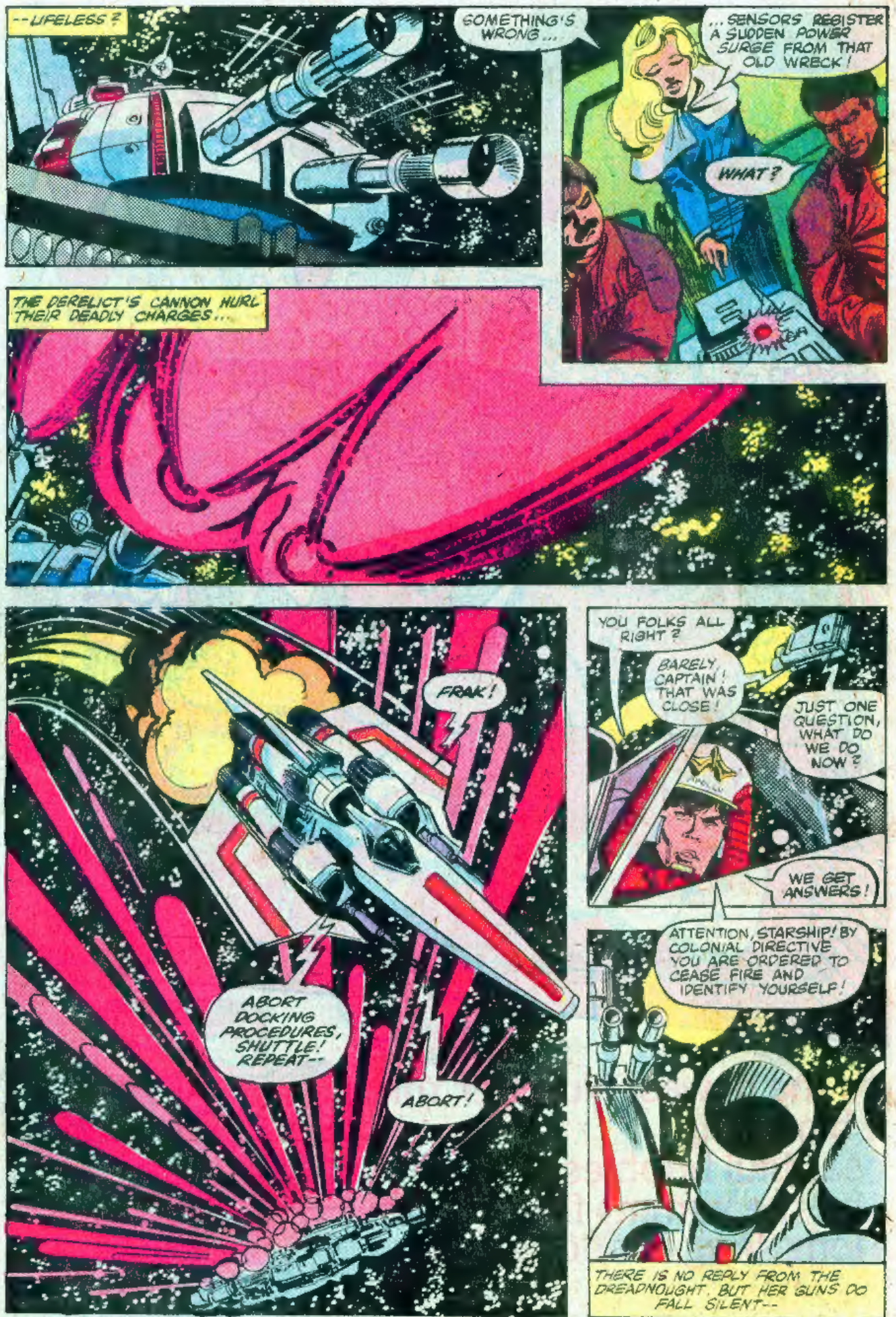
--LIFELESS?
SOMETHING'S WRONG...
...SENSORS REGISTER A SUDDEN POWER SURGE FROM THAT OLD WRECK!
WHAT?
THE DERELICT'S CANNON HURL THEIR DEADLY CHARGES...
FRAK!
ABORT DOCKING PROCEDURES, SHUTTLE! REPEAT--
ABORT!
YOU FOLKS ALL RIGHT?
BARELY, CAPTAIN! THAT WAS CLOSE!
JUST ONE QUESTION, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
WE GET ANSWERS!
ATTENTION, STARSHIP! BY COLONIAL DIRECTIVE YOU ARE ORDERED TO CEASE FIRE AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF!
THERE IS NO REPLY FROM THE DREADNOUGHT. BUT HER GUNS DO FALL SILENT--

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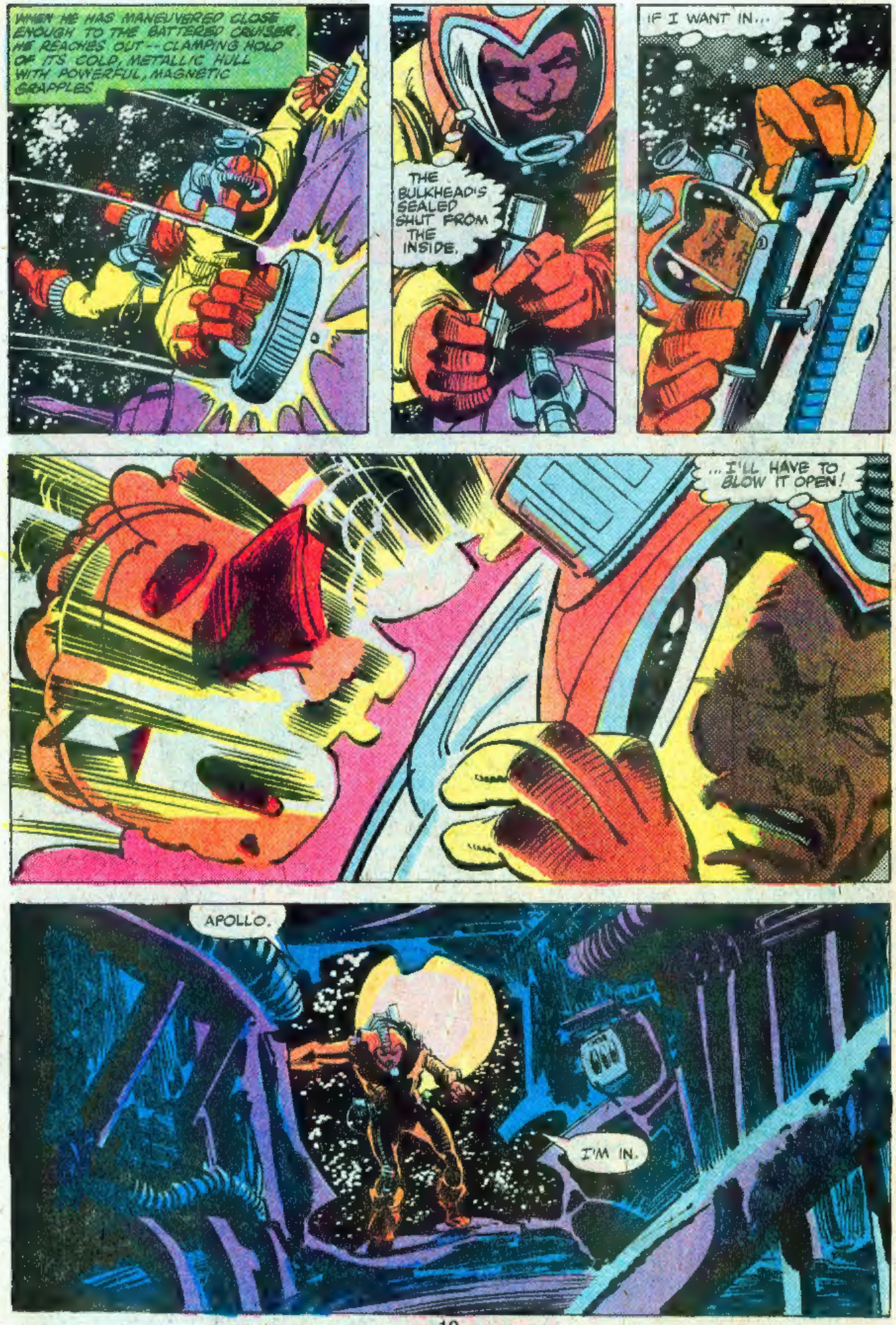

WHEN HE HAS MANEUVERED CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE BATTERED CRUISER, HE REACHES OUT -- CLAMPING HOLD OF ITS COLD, METALLIC HULL WITH POWERFUL, MAGNETIC GRAPPLES.
THE BULKHEAD'S SEALED SHUT FROM THE INSIDE.
IF I WANT IN...
...I'LL HAVE TO BLOW IT OPEN!
APOLLO.
I'M IN.

CONTINUED AFTER 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

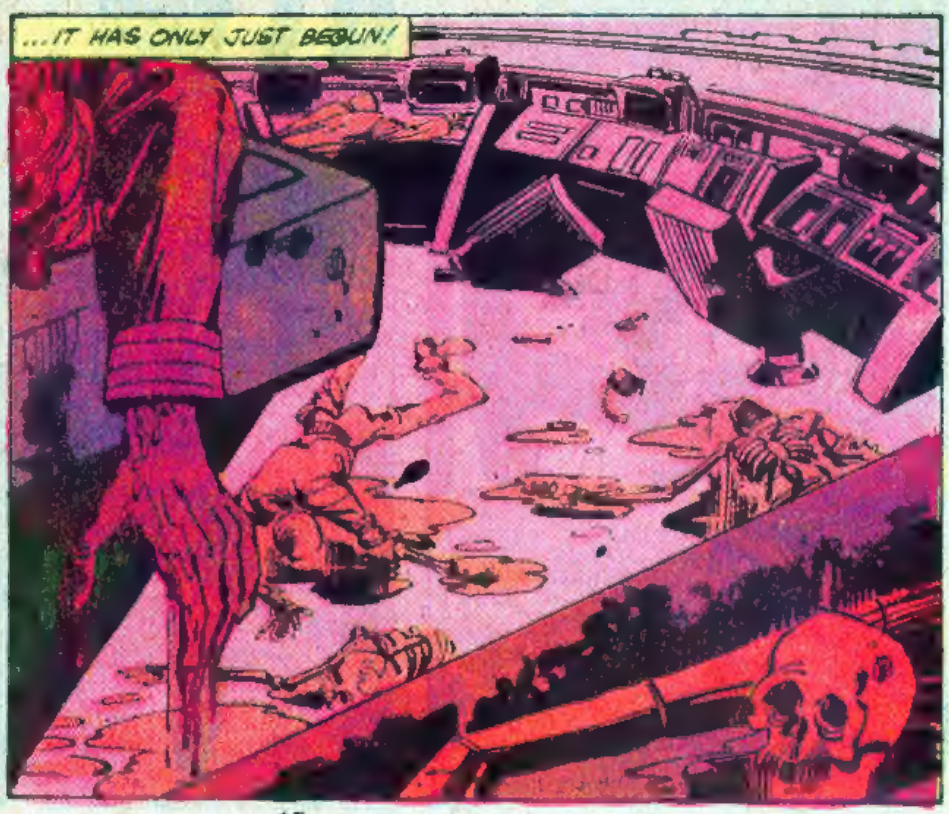
BOOMER! WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?
SOME SORT OF... SPACE VERMIN...
...LIKE NONE I'VE EVER SEEN BEFORE!
THEY'RE SAVAGE... VORACIOUS... SWARMING ALL OVER ME! I'M GOING TO TRY SOMETHING...
...CONCUSSION GRENADE... IF THAT DOESN'T WORK...
FORTUNATELY, FOR BOOMER, IT DOES...
PAKKHHOM
OHHH... I FELT THAT... EVEN IN MY... ARMORED BIO-SUIT...
...BUT IT BOUGHT ME A LITTLE BREATHING ROOM.
I'VE GOT 'EM ON THE RUN--
--FOR NOW.

THIS PROBABLY WON'T HOLD THEM BACK FOR LONG... BUT...
BOOMER QUICKLY PRIMES AND HURLS A SECOND GRENADE...

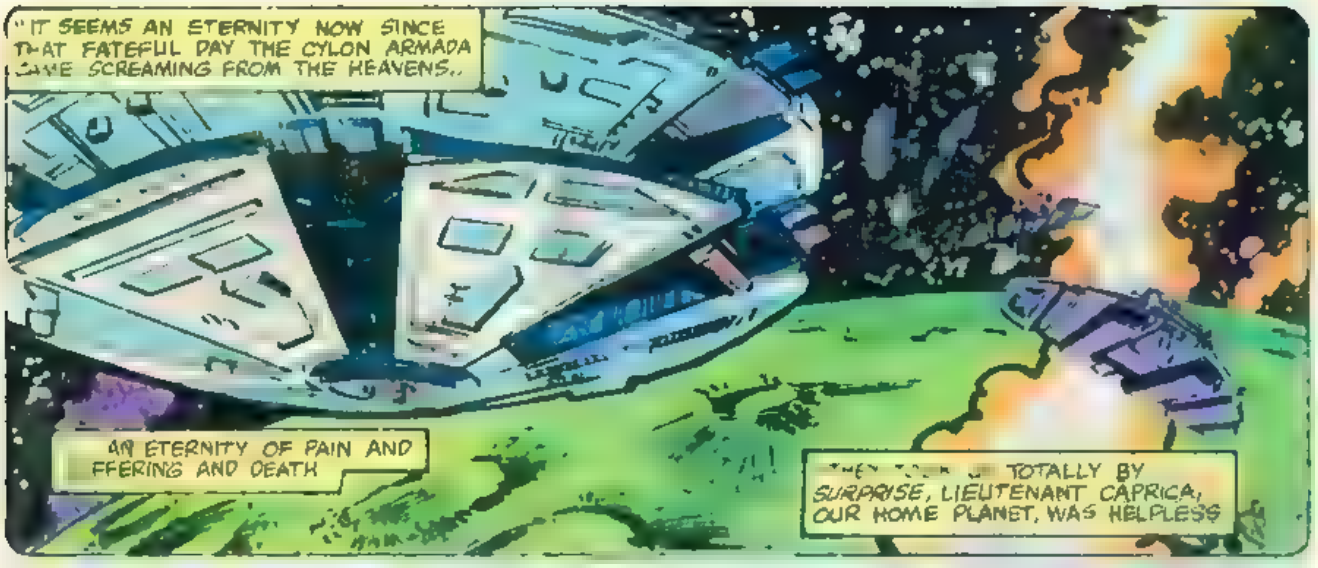
...BLOCKING THE CORRIDOR...
BAWHHOM!

TALON, TURNING, HE RACES IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION ALONG DARK, WINDING HALLWAYS CHOKED WITH LITTER...
...AND WITH OTHER THINGS... THINGS GNAWED CLEAN AND GRINNING -- GLAD, PERHAPS, THAT THEIR TORMENT AND HORROR IS AT LAST, MERCIFULLY OVER--

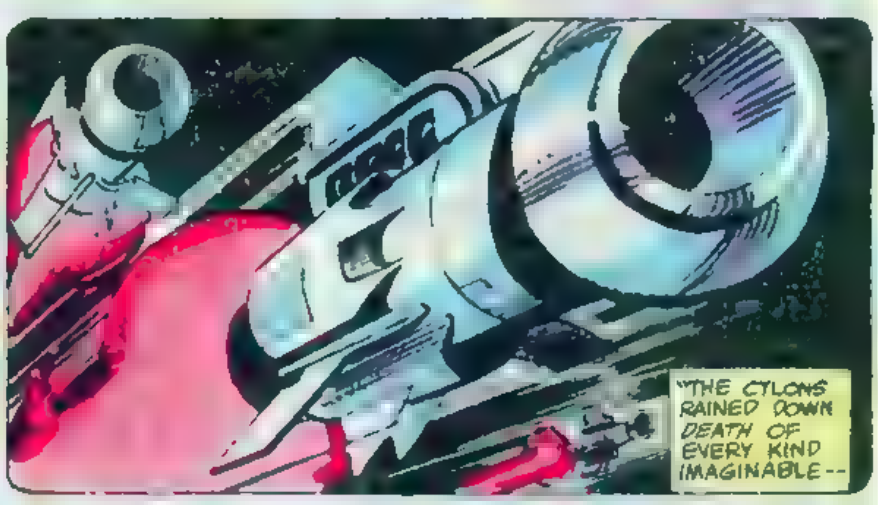
-BUT FOR BOOMER, WHEN HE FINALLY REACHES THE BRIDGE...
OH, MY GOD...

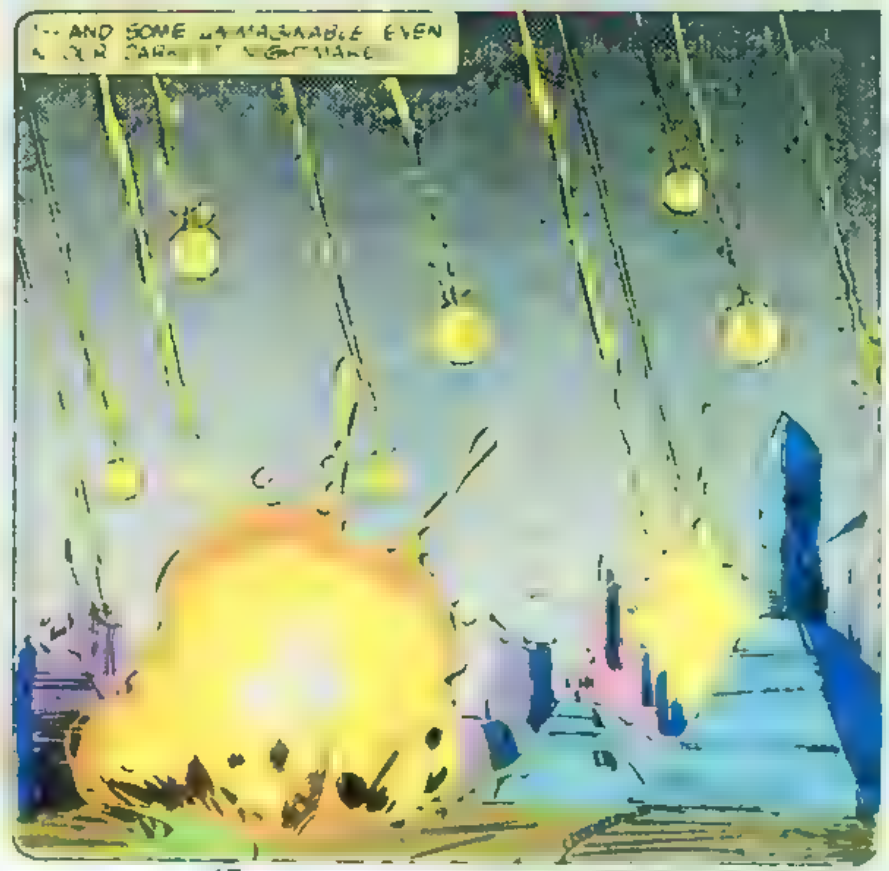

...IT HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN!

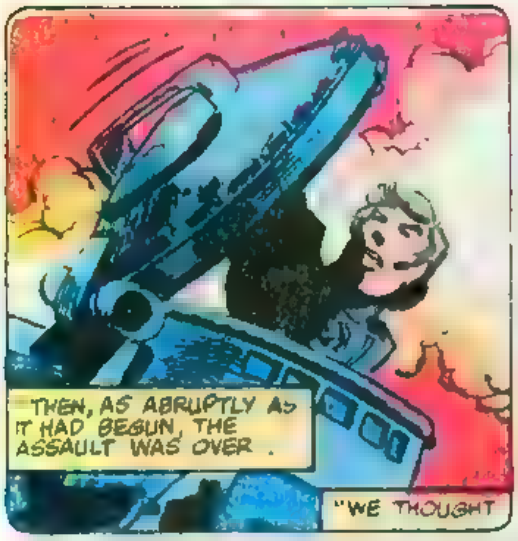
TH-THEY'RE DEAD EVERY ONE OF
IE. ENAN
GET OFF
GET OFF
YOUR GUNS FIRED ON US — WHY?
AUTOMATIC DEFENSE ...PROGRAMMED TO FIRE ON ANY APPROACHING CRAFT...UNLESS CONTACTED BY HUMAN VOICE MEANT TO KEEP CYLONS AWAY...BUT THEY DIDN'T NEED SHIPS TO KILL US!
YOU CAN'T HELP US... NOT NOW... NOT ANYMORE...
TOO LATE . I'M THE LAST. I WATCHED THE OTHERS DIE ONE BY ONE IT WAS HORRIBLE .. I JUST WATCHED, AND WATCHED ..BUT THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO
THERE IS NO HOPE NOW THERE NEVER REALLY WAS...
WE TRIED TO FIND YOU TRIED TO FIND THE FLEET
BUT THE PLAGUE FOUND US FIRST

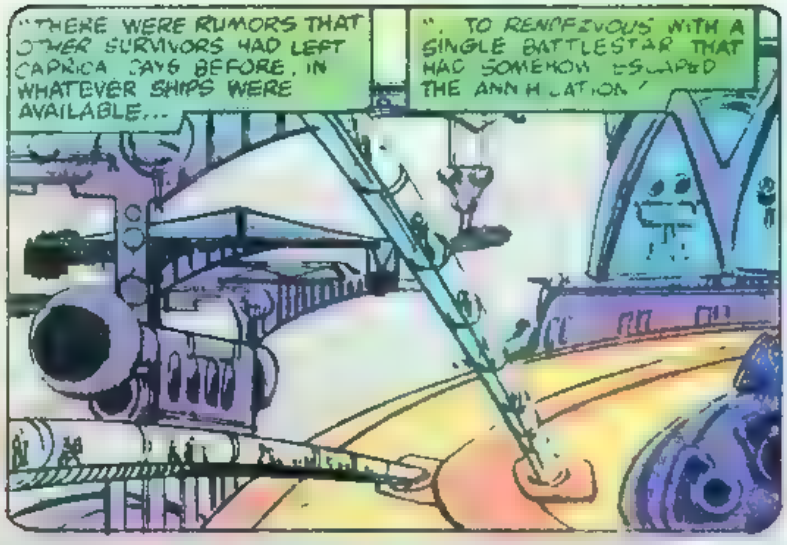

"IT SEEMS AN ETERNITY NOW SINCE THAT FATEFUL DAY THE CYLON ARMADA CAME SCREAMING FROM THE HEAVENS..
AN ETERNITY OF PAIN AND SUFFERING AND DEATH
THEY [illegible] TOTALLY BY SURPRISE, LIEUTENANT CAPRICA, OUR HOME PLANET, WAS HELPLESS

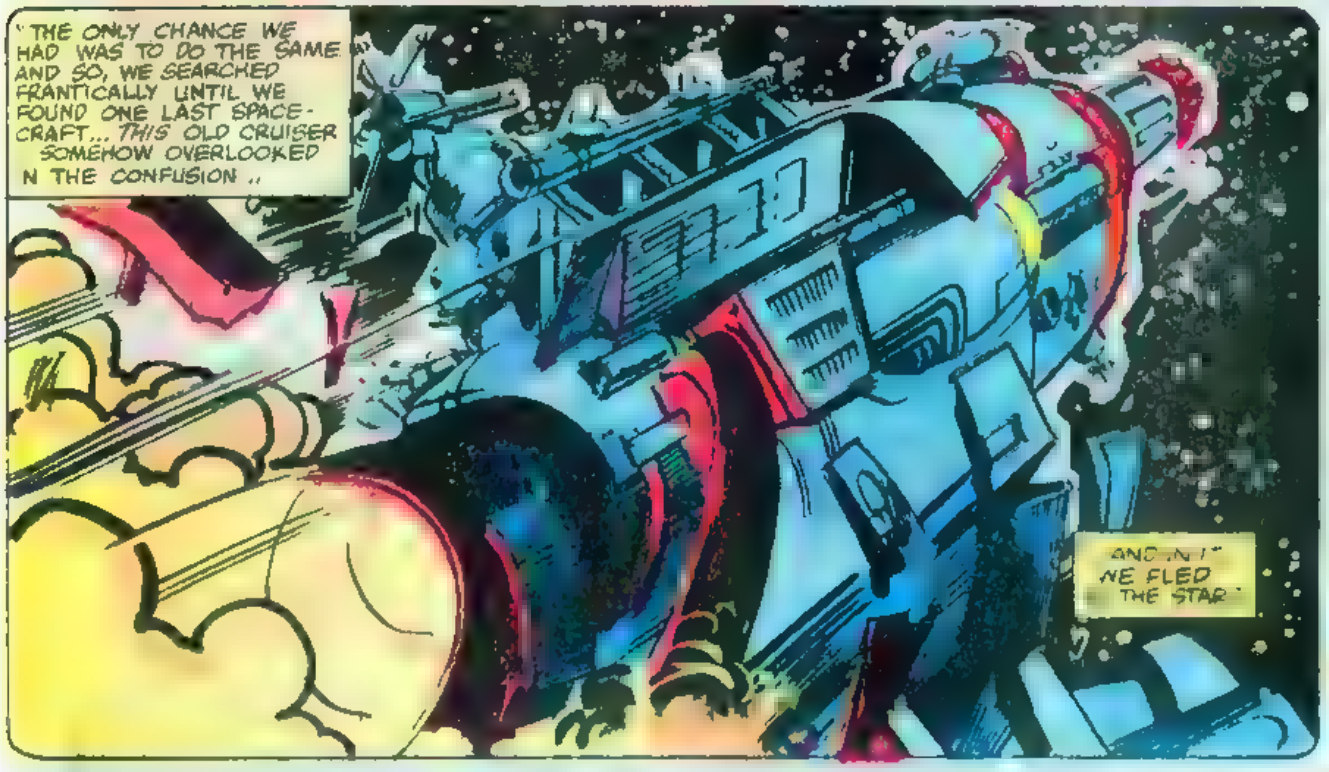
"THOSE OF US WHO COULD, HID IN UNDERGROUND VIADUCTS AND SEWERS, WAITING FOR THE ATTACK TO END
"HOPING.. PRAYING.. THE COLONIAL FLEET WOULD COME TO OUR RESCUE.


"THE CYLONS RAINED DOWN DEATH OF EVERY KIND IMAGINABLE--


"--AND SOME UNIMAGINABLE EVEN [illegible]







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"WE BEGAN DYING, HORRIBLY ONE BY ONE, AS THE PLAGUE SWEPT LIKE WILDFIRE THROUGH OUR CROWDED SHIP
AND I DID SOMETHING TO THE VERMIN ON BOARD CHANGED THEM MUTATED THEM
"INTO SOMETHING ALIEN DEADLY AND INSATIABLY HUNGRY WE FOUGHT THEM AS BEST WE COULD
BUT THERE WERE SO MANY AND THEY JUST KEPT COMING AND COMING.
DRIVING US BACK ALWAYS BACK
WE MADE OUR LAST STAND HERE, ON THE BRIDGE
BUT IN VAIN .. ALL IN VAIN EVERYONE IS DEAD NOW
THERE IS NO HOPE
THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE

CONTINUED AFTER 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

CHOKING BACK HIS TEARS, BOOMER TURNS FROM ILYA, QUICKLY CROSSES THE BRIDGE AND SHUTS OFF THE FUSION REACTOR COOLING SYSTEMS.
THERE! IN LESS THAN FIVE CENTONS THIS SHIP WILL BLOW ITSELF TO BITS, AND WHEN IT DOES, I'D BETTER BE LONG GONE!
THEN HE RUNS A SINISTER ALIEN GAUNTLET OF DEATH!
BLAST YOU! YOU KILLED THEM!
YOU, THE PLAGUE, AND THE CYLONS!
BUT YOU DIDN'T KILL US ALL!
YOU'LL NEVER KILL US ALL!
THE HUMAN RACE WILL LIVE, DESPITE YOU!
NO, BECAUSE OF YOU!
YOU TAUGHT US THAT, TO SURVIVE, WE MUST FIGHT...

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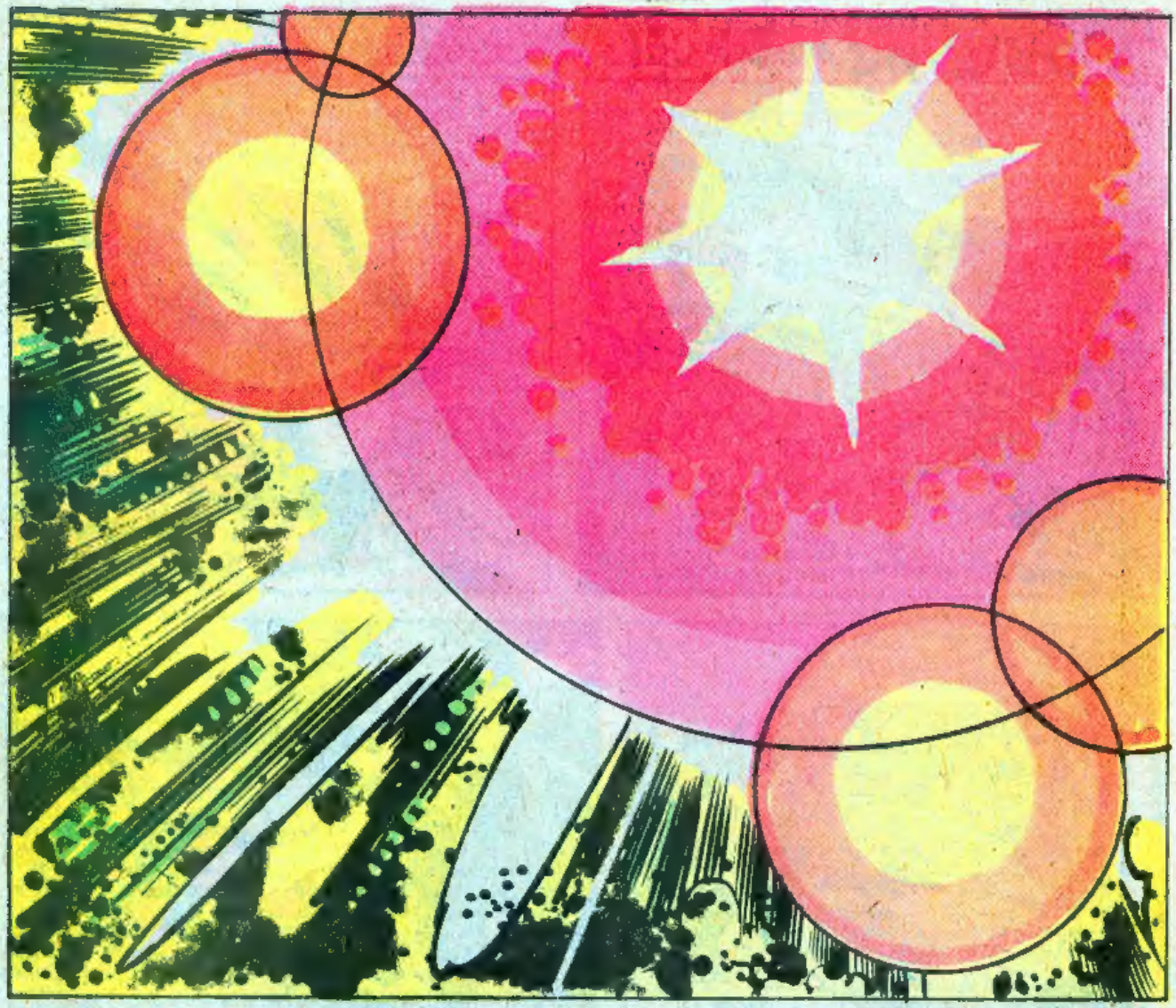

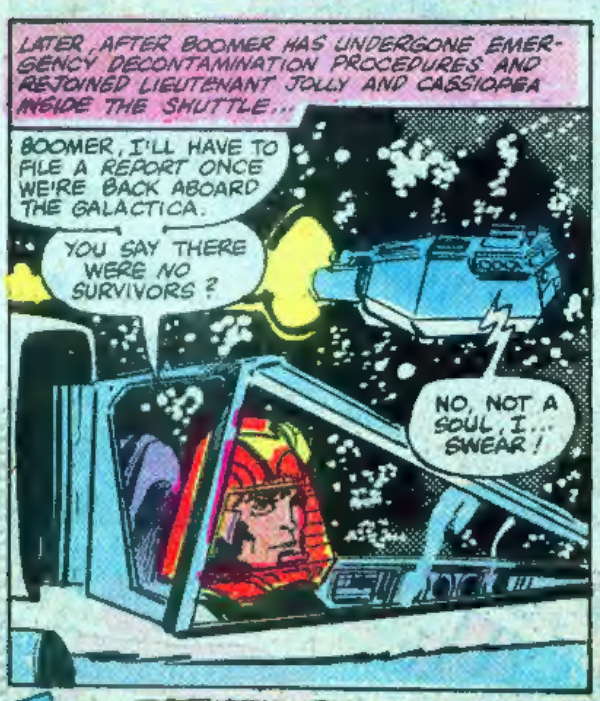

NEXT FORBIDDEN FRUIT!

BATTLESTAR BULLETINS

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

ALLEN MILGROM
EDITOR
MARY JO DUFFY
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear fellow Galacticans,

I admit I usually don't like media tie-in comics, but BATTLESTAR GALACTICA is different. I really like it. Roger McKenzie must have watched all the episodes and done some research on the characters, because he can really handle them. He interprets each one like he knows them all personally (which would be pretty hard, all things considered); I compliment him on that.

On BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #11: on the whole, I liked the issue, and the idea of Starbuck winning the insignia from General Tragg was amusing, but this big win of Starbuck's is not in the spirit of the TV show, where Starbuck *never* wins. I also think you should resolve the Memory Machine plotline, as it is getting boring, and put Sire Uri aside for a while. One last question: whose idea was it to put the pilot's name on his warrior helmet? I like that very much.

Kevin Halstead
24 Maplewood Rd.
Hartsdale, NY 10530

What did Starbuck really win, Kevin? More trouble (*lots* more trouble), so you can't really say he won, can you? Consider the Memory Machine kaput, and likewise Uri, at least for awhile. The nameplates on the warriors' helmet were the suggestion of Louise Jones, Marvel's newest editor. We use the nameplates for purposes of easy identification. Okay?

Dear editor,

Why was Zac in BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #10? In #1, pg. 2, panel 1, Zac stated that he and Apollo were alone on the patrol in which he died. So how could Adama remember it? Do I get a no-prize?

John A. Holt, Jr.
25A Elm St., Apt. 32
Foxboro, MA 02035

Sorry, John. What we saw was a visualization of Adama's memories, which could easily have been (and, in fact, were) memories of accounts of Zac's death, rather than a recollection of the event itself. And since he was trying to recall something very important to himself, it isn't unlikely that that scene would come into Adama's mind.

Dear people,

It's about time that McKenzie and Simonson decided to come back. After all those horrible fill-in issues, I was beginning to worry. The stories were boring and incomprehensible, and I was starting to think that the comic shouldn't have outlived the TV series. Now Messrs. Roger and Walt are back and we get enjoyable stories again. I especially liked seeing Starbuck forego saving his friends for a quick game of chance, and I could almost hear Starbuck saying, "There's no chance when I play." Great artwork, too. Thanks.

Also, who is to say that B.G. takes place in the same solar system as any of the Marvel universes? Why couldn't the Earth Adama and crew are looking for be populated by the Badoon?

Mike Sopp
438 W. 32nd St.
Erie, PA 16508

Dear Al, Roger, and Walt,

1) Why not have Adama awaken from the sleep the night before the Cylon attack on the colonies knowing what he knows now? The ability to use his mind to move matter was shown in the TV show, and since one power of this nature exists, it wouldn't be stretching too much to claim he has another? Since he could predict future events, he would know what action to take to save the colonies. I feel this may be a good idea as you book is entering the same rut that killed the TV show — fighting and running, running and fighting all the time. If you don't wish to use this idea in BATTLESTAR GALACTICA, how about a run of stories in WHAT IF...?

2) If you must keep running, I strongly suggest that the ships in the fleet join together into several large ships. This joining would mean increased living area, heating and cooling energy decreases from less exposed surfaces, less air and food transportation problems, greater protection of important ships like the argoship by placing them in the center of a cluster,and an increased chance of any one ship surviving an attack. The Battlestar wouldn't join to anything, of course.

3) Find Earth — please! I'm very interested in the time zone in Earth's existence that they fit into, and if they affected our past or how they would fit in now?

Thanks for this chance to speak out.

Al Barsedy
(no address)

And thanks for speaking to us, Al. In all likelihood, we'll never be able to take you up on suggestions one and three, though. You see, even though BATTLESTAR GALACTICA is no longer on television, it is still very much under the control of its creator, Glen Larson, and will still see production in media other than our comics (as the forthcoming movie, reputedly scripted by legendary science fiction writer, Isaac Asimov, will attest to). This means that we cannot make any major alterations in the basics of BATTLESTAR GALACTICA, so we can't really use your first suggestion. Likewise, since the finding of Earth is the logical climax to the series, we must also leave that long-AWAITED ADVENTURE IN THE HANDS OF Mr. Larson. Lastly, our contract allows us to publish the exploits of the Galactica and crew only in this comic, so a story or series in WHAT IF...? will not be forthcomig. However, we will pass your second suggestion on to the powers that be — and who knows? Someday soon, you may see it come about. In the meantime, thanks again, and remember that no suggestion is ever wasted, because that's our only way of knowing what you want to see.

Dear Editor,

There are only two ways to improve your comic. Get Rich Buckler back (keep Walt Simonson for covers, though), and change the blurb at the top of the first page. Most blurbs are used to summarize the origins of the heroes, but this one is an anthropology lesson. It should tell how the Galactica ended up in space, who they're fighting, and why.

Paul Green
3209 Corvette Court
Virginia Beach, VA 23452